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ASSOCIATION BETWEEN TORNADOES AND INSTABILITY OF HOSTING PROMINENCES

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ABSTRACT

We studied the dynamics of all prominence tornadoes detected by the *Solar Dynamics Observatory*/Atmospheric Imaging Assembly from 2011 January 01 to December 31. In total, 361 events were identified during the whole year, but only 166 tornadoes were traced until the end of their lifetime. Out of 166 tornadoes, 80 (48%) triggered CMEs in hosting prominences, 83 (50%) caused failed coronal mass ejections (CMEs) or strong internal motion in the prominences, and only 3 (2%) finished their lifetimes without any observed activity. Therefore, almost all prominence tornadoes lead to the destabilization of their hosting prominences and half of them trigger CMEs. Consequently, prominence tornadoes may be used as precursors for CMEs and hence for space weather predictions.

Keywords: Sun: atmosphere – Sun: filaments – Sun: prominences – Sun: oscillations

1. INTRODUCTION

Tornadoes are rotating, vertical structures frequently observed in the Earth's atmosphere. The term "tornado" has also been used to define observed magnetic structures in the solar atmosphere. There are two types of solar tornadoes. One type is connected with small-scale chromospheric swirls or chromospheric tornadoes, which are observed in chromospheric spectral lines and may provide a mechanism for channeling energy from the lower into the upper solar atmosphere (Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2012). Another type is related with larger structures typically associated with solar filaments/prominences and is referred to as prominence tornadoes. Prominence tornadoes were first observed almost a century ago by Pettit (1925) as a closely twisted rope or a fine screw. The high spatial and temporal resolution full-disk images obtained by the Atmospheric Imaging Assembly (AIA; Lemen et al. (2012)) on board the *Solar Dynamics Observatory* (SDO; Pesnell et al. (2012)) revived interests in their structure. Prominence tornadoes are usually seen in hot coronal lines (e.g. 171 Å) as thin dark vertical structures at the solar limb (Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013).

Chromospheric tornadoes are considered to be rotating structures, but the rotation of prominence tornadoes is currently under debate. Animations in extreme ultraviolet spectral lines and some spectroscopic measurements show rotation evidence of prominence tornadoes (Orozco Suárez et al. 2012; Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013; Su et al. 2014; Levens et al. 2015). However, recent spectroscopic observations did not confirm the rotational dynamics (Schmieder et al. 2017). Instead, it was suggested that the rotation (if it exists) of prominence tornadoes is only intermittent, lasting no more than one hour (Martínez González et al. 2016). Panasenco et al. (2014) argued that the elusive rotation of a tornado can be created by oscillations along the prominence spine and/or 3D plasma motion following the magnetic fields inside and along the prominence. The oscillation patterns in tornadoes were frequently observed in recent years (Mghebrishvili et al. 2015; Martínez González et al. 2016; Schmieder et al. 2017); therefore, the patterns may create the illusion of rotation. If the prominence tornadoes do not rotate, then the term "tornado" is clearly misleading. However, we will still use the term "prominence tornado" in this paper.

Prominence tornadoes usually appear near prominence legs and may play a significant role in the supply of mass and twists (Su et al. 2012; Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013). The structures are very dynamic during their evolution, sometimes splitting into thin threads and rejoining afterward. On the other hand, prominences/filaments often undergo large-scale instabilities that are usually associated with flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs; Labrosse et al. (2010); Mackay et al. (2010)). The very dynamic behavior of the tornado-like structures naturally suggests their connection with the prominence instability. The tornadoes may become unstable due to some sort of magnetic (or flow) instability, which may destabilize the host prominence on large-scales and lead to flare/CME (Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013). If the tornadoes trigger an instability in the associated prominence, then they can be used as CME precursors and hence could significantly improve the space weather predictions.

In this paper, we analyze the data obtained by the SDO/AIA instrument during the whole year of 2011 to study the dynamics of all prominence tornadoes, which appeared during this time interval. We identify over 361 such structures and are able to obtain statistical information regarding their dynamics. In particular, we investigate the evolution and stability of each tornado, their connection with the dynamics of associated prominences and explore their role in triggering CMEs.

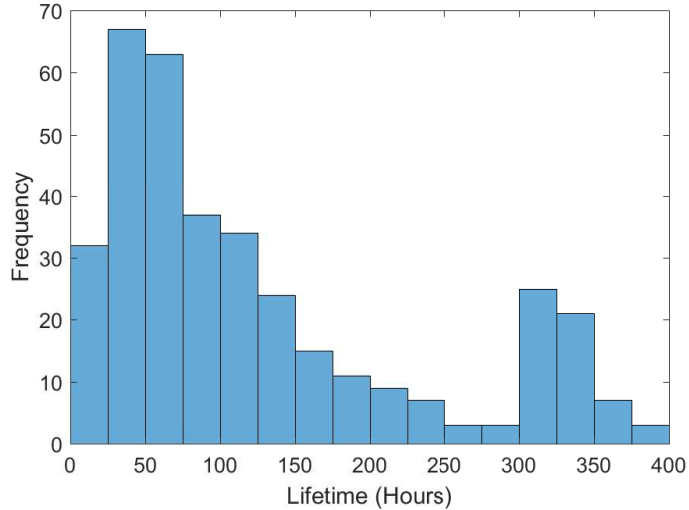


Figure 1. Lifetime distribution of all detected prominence tornadoes during the year 2011.

2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA ANALYSIS

The observations were obtained between 2011 January 1, and December 31 with the SDO. Our goal was to identify all prominence tornadoes during this time and to follow their time evolution individually. Prominence tornadoes are not included in the Heliophysics Events Knowledgebase (HEK); therefore, to observe all prominence tornadoes above the solar disk, we were constrained to do it by naked eye. Throughout the analysis, we made use of JHelioviewer ([Müller et al. 2009](#)), visualization software for solar physics data based on the JPEG 2000 image compression standard for effective viewing and exploration of AIA data. It allowed us to observe the tornadoes in our preferred filters, time interval, and cadence. We defined the starting coordinates and lifetimes of each prominence tornado during 2011. We have measured each tornado's lifetime as the time interval between its first appearance and complete disappearance. AIA 171 Å images were used for this purpose as the prominence tornadoes are expected to be visible as dark structures in this line. Because prominences and associated tornadoes are long lived structures, the 2 hr cadence was selected for the 171 Å line. After determining the final stages of evolution for individual tornadoes, we downloaded level 1 data and processed it to corresponding level 1.5 fits files of the 171, 193, and 304 Å band channels. The level 1.5 data include bad-pixel removal, de-spiking, flat-fielding, and scale correction. The data were calibrated and analyzed using standard routines in the SolarSoft (SSW) package. The final stages of tornado evolution were carefully studied for each event.

Solar tornadoes are mostly visible at the solar limb as dark structures in hot coronal lines. When tornadoes move toward the solar disk due to the rotation, their identification is complicated. First, the hosting prominences also appear as dark absorption filaments on the disk; therefore, it is hard to distinguish tornadoes from them. Second, the tornadoes seem to be vertical structures, and hence their detection on the disk is complicated due to the projection effects. We traced all prominence tornadoes appearing at the west limb from the far side of the Sun until they were seen on the disk. We also traced all tornadoes at the east limb until they disappeared to the far side of the Sun due to the solar rotation.

All information about detected and investigated tornadoes, including starting coordinates, the start and end times, lifetime, and fate (i.e. how did tornadoes end their evolution), is presented in

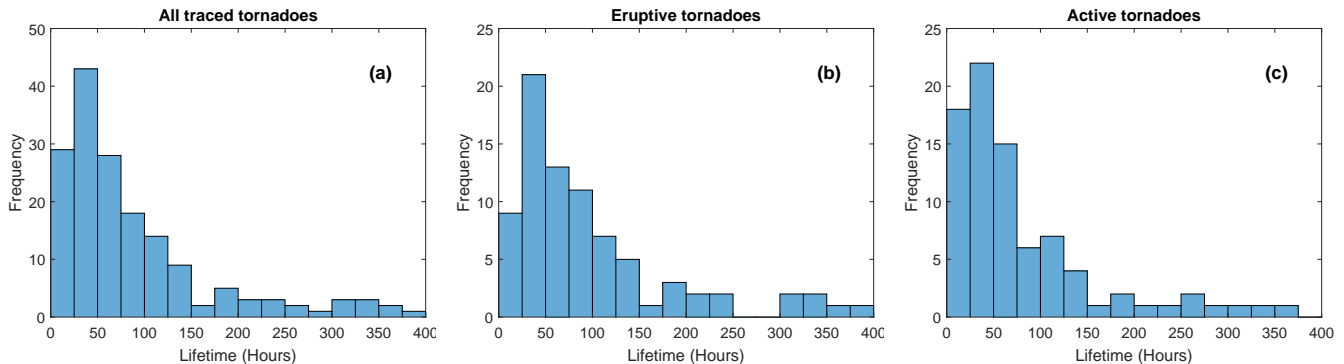


Figure 2. Lifetime distribution: (a) all traced prominence tornadoes from the formation to the end of their lifetime, (b) eruptive tornadoes, and (c) active tornadoes.

Table 1. Classification of prominence tornadoes during the year 2011.

Category	Number
Eruptive tornadoes	80
Active tornadoes	83
Quasi-quiescent tornadoes	3

a catalog (see Table 2 in the Appendix). During one year, we detected 361 tornadoes. Tornadoes sometimes appeared as separate structures, sometimes they were appearing as a group of different tornadoes. They were also associated with hedgerow prominences (Orozco Suárez et al. 2012). In our case, we observed 177 groups of tornadoes, which were composed of two or more tornadoes. Each group was associated with an individual prominence leg; therefore, we considered each group as a single event. Sometimes prominence tornadoes were associated with coronal cavities (Li et al. 2012; Panesar et al. 2013; Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013; Mghebrishvili et al. 2015), which usually appear as dark semicircular or circular regions in the corona above prominences. We identified 113 coronal cavities above prominence tornadoes.

The lifetime of all detected prominence tornadoes ranges between 7 and 398 hr. Obviously, we could not trace all prominence tornadoes from the beginning to the end of their lifetimes. Some tornadoes disappeared into the far side of the Sun and we could not determine their lifetimes. Some tornadoes appeared from the far side and hence we had no information about their birth/start times. The average lifetime of all observed events is 126 hr, which is much longer than that (35 hr) obtained by Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. (2013). The number of tornadoes with lifetime >250 hr was 63 (17%), the lifetime of 260 (72%) tornadoes was under 150 hr and only 38 (11%) tornadoes had a lifetime between 150 and 250 hr. Corresponding histogram is shown in Figure 1. The figure shows a clear peak of tornado lifetime on 25-75 hr. Another small interesting peak is seen at 300-350 hr. It is unclear whether this peak has any real physical explanation, but almost all long lived tornadoes led to CMEs.

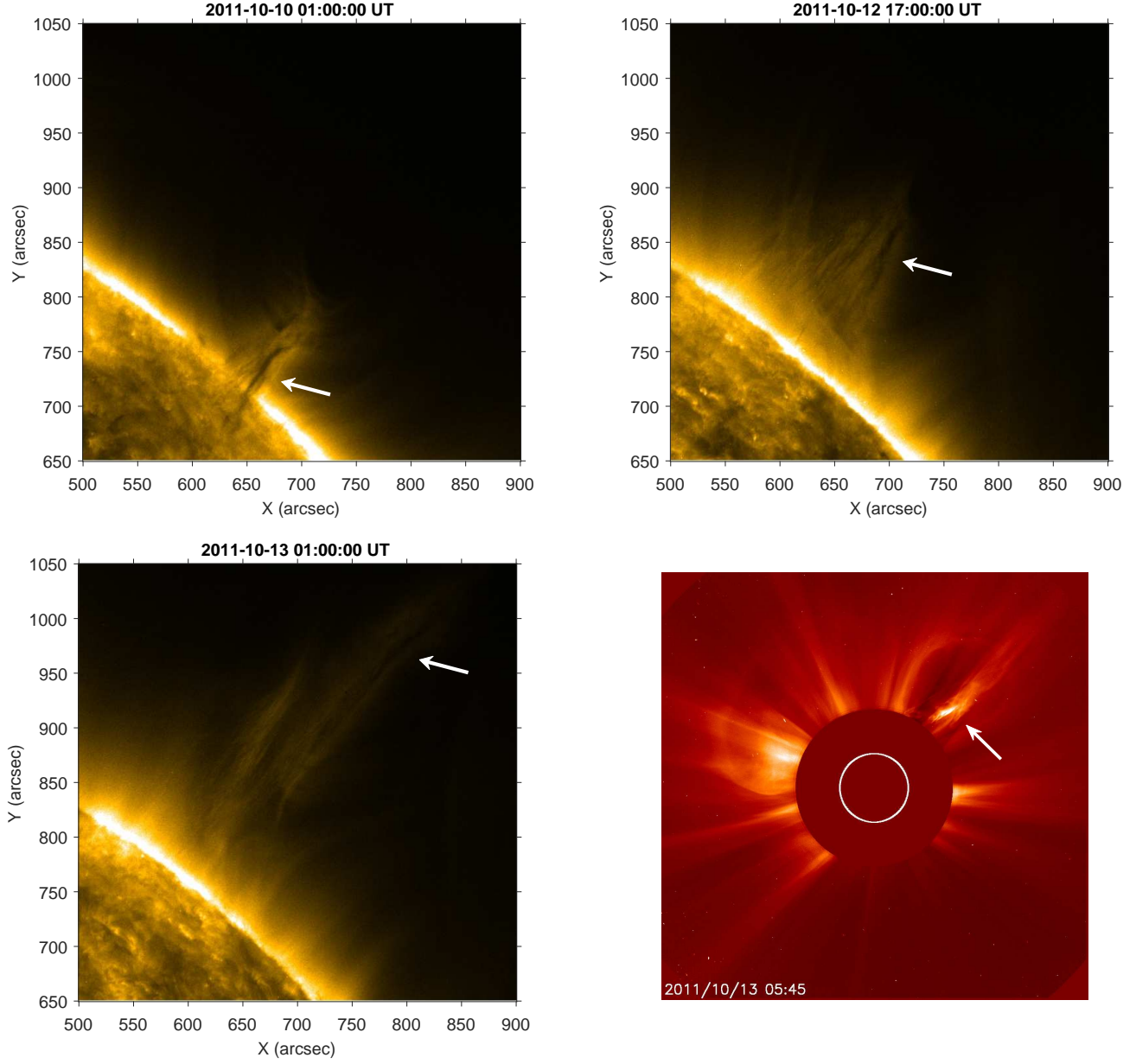


Figure 3. Consecutive *SDO/AIA* 171 Å images (upper and lower left panels) showing evolution and eruption phases of an eruptive tornado during 2011 October 3-13. White arrows indicate the locations of the tornado axis at different times during its eruption. The lower right panel shows *LASCO/C2* image of the corresponding CME at 05:45 UT, 2011 October 13. The white arrow again indicates a possible location of the upward ascending tornado. The corresponding animation shows the *SDO/AIA* 171 Å images of the eruptive tornado from UT 2011 October 08T00:40 to 2011 October 13T05:50.

(An animation of this figure is available.)

For those tornadoes that we traced from their formation to the end, the average lifetime is 88 hr. This is closer to the result of [Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. \(2013\)](#), but still more than twice longer. Panel (a) of Figure 2 shows the lifetime distribution of all traced tornadoes, while panels (b) and (c) show lifetimes of eruptive (which erupted as CMEs) and active tornadoes.

3. RESULTS

After careful analysis of the observational data, we classified the prominence tornadoes into several categories. We excluded the tornadoes for which we were unable to study the full lifecycle (see also Section 2). Sometimes it was difficult to trace the tornadoes when they moved from the west limb toward the disk center. We could not trace 35 such tornadoes during the whole study. Obviously, we were not able to trace the tornadoes that disappeared from the east limb into the far side of the Sun. There were 160 such events. Therefore, in total, 195 events from all detected tornadoes were excluded from further consideration. Consequently, the final phases of 166 prominence tornadoes were observed during the whole year. These 166 tornadoes can be classified into three categories: eruptive, active, and quasi-quietest tornadoes (see Table 1). We will discuss each category separately.

3.1. Eruptive tornadoes

Tornadoes that become unstable and erupt at the final stage of their lifetimes are classified as eruptive. In turn, these eruptions lead to the destabilization of the hosting prominences, which finally eject as CMEs. We observed 80 eruptive tornadoes. The corresponding CMEs were identified in the LASCO CME catalog (Yashiro et al. 2004).

Figure 3 shows the evolution and final eruption phase of an eruptive tornado in the 171 Å filter, which is a representative example for many eruptive tornadoes. The tornado was formed at 17:00 UT, October 3, persisted for about 10 days and erupted at about 01:00 UT, October 13. The tornado rose up from the solar limb and finally erupted together with the corresponding prominence as a CME. Similar evolution and behavior are common characteristics for all eruptive tornadoes. The LASCO CME catalog reports the first appearance of the CME in the field of view of the C2 coronagraph at 02:03:24 UT, October 13 with a mean speed of 216 km s⁻¹. The CME appeared with an angular width of 125° in the northeast limb at a central position angle of 45° (see the lower right panel on Figure 3).

3.2. Active tornadoes

The second category includes the tornadoes that produced some activity by the end of their lifetimes. Some of the tornadoes were associated with active filaments in event catalogs. Some of them led to failed CMEs when the eruption did not lead to a CME and drained back onto the solar surface. Some of the tornadoes were associated with quietest prominences, but they have undergone some activity, such as transition flows which are connecting with hosting events. Tornadoes of this category often experienced some kind of influence from the surrounding medium.

An example of active tornadoes is shown in Figure 4. In this case, we observed several active tornadoes in the 171 and 304 Å filters. In the 171 Å line, we see that the tornado group consisted of two clear neighboring structures (see, e.g., upper left panel corresponding to the time 16:00 UT, April 29). The tornadoes started to show some activity at about 18:00 UT, April 29, as they slowly rose up (see the upper right panel). The tornadoes consequently moved to the other side of the loops and disappeared near the surface. On the other hand, the 304 Å line images clearly show how corresponding bright plasma was moving toward the other side of loops and caused brightening near the surface. Therefore, active tornadoes generally cause the destabilization of their hosting prominence and lead to different types of activity such as a microflare and/or a failed CME. Out of 166 events, 83 were classified as active tornadoes.

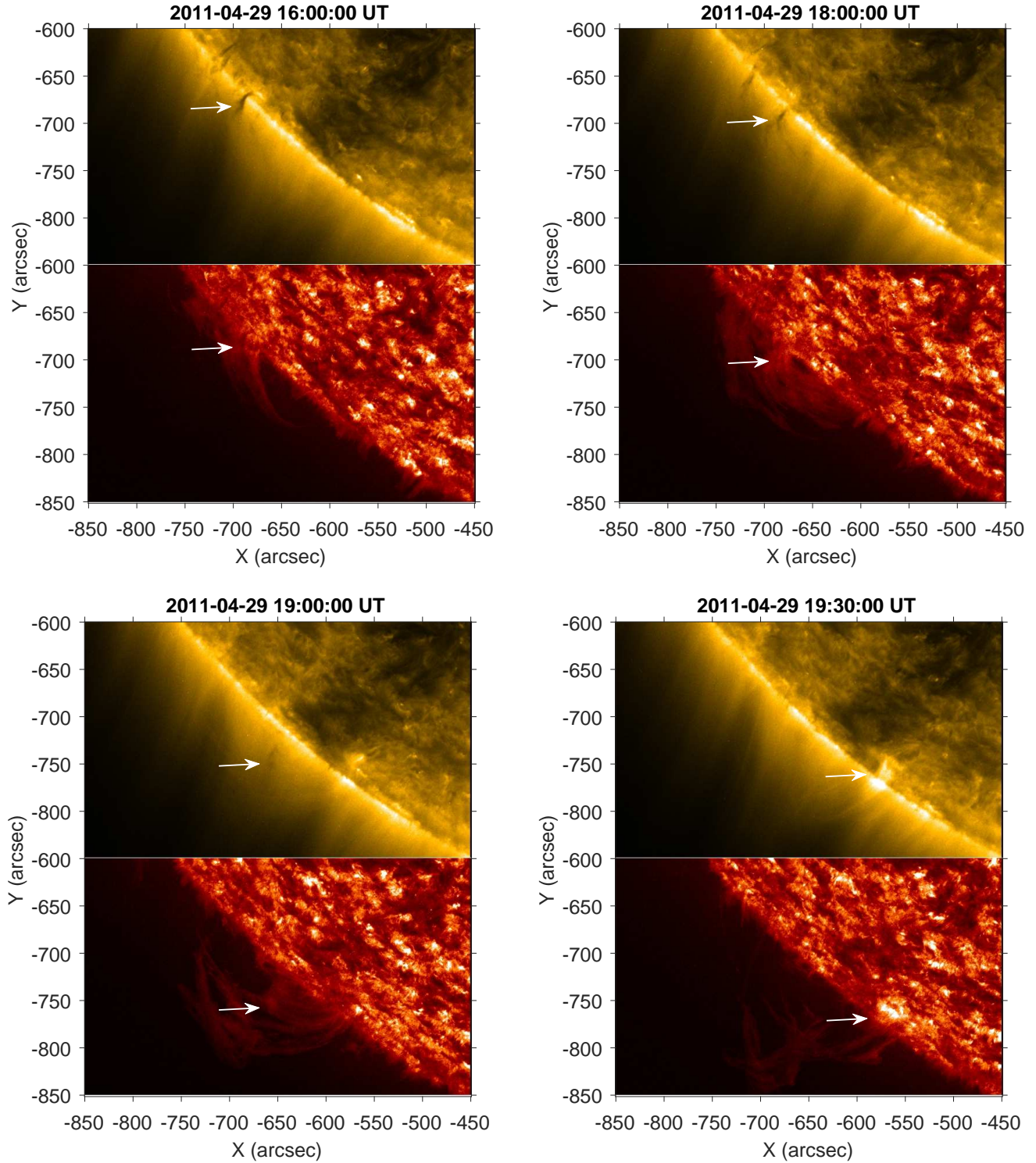


Figure 4. Active tornado observed by *SDO/AIA* 171 and 304 Å. White arrows in both line images show the location of the tornado. The corresponding animation compares the *SDO/AIA* 171 and 304 Å images of the active tornado from UT 2011 April 27T15:06 to 2011 April 29T22:50.

(An animation of this figure is available.)

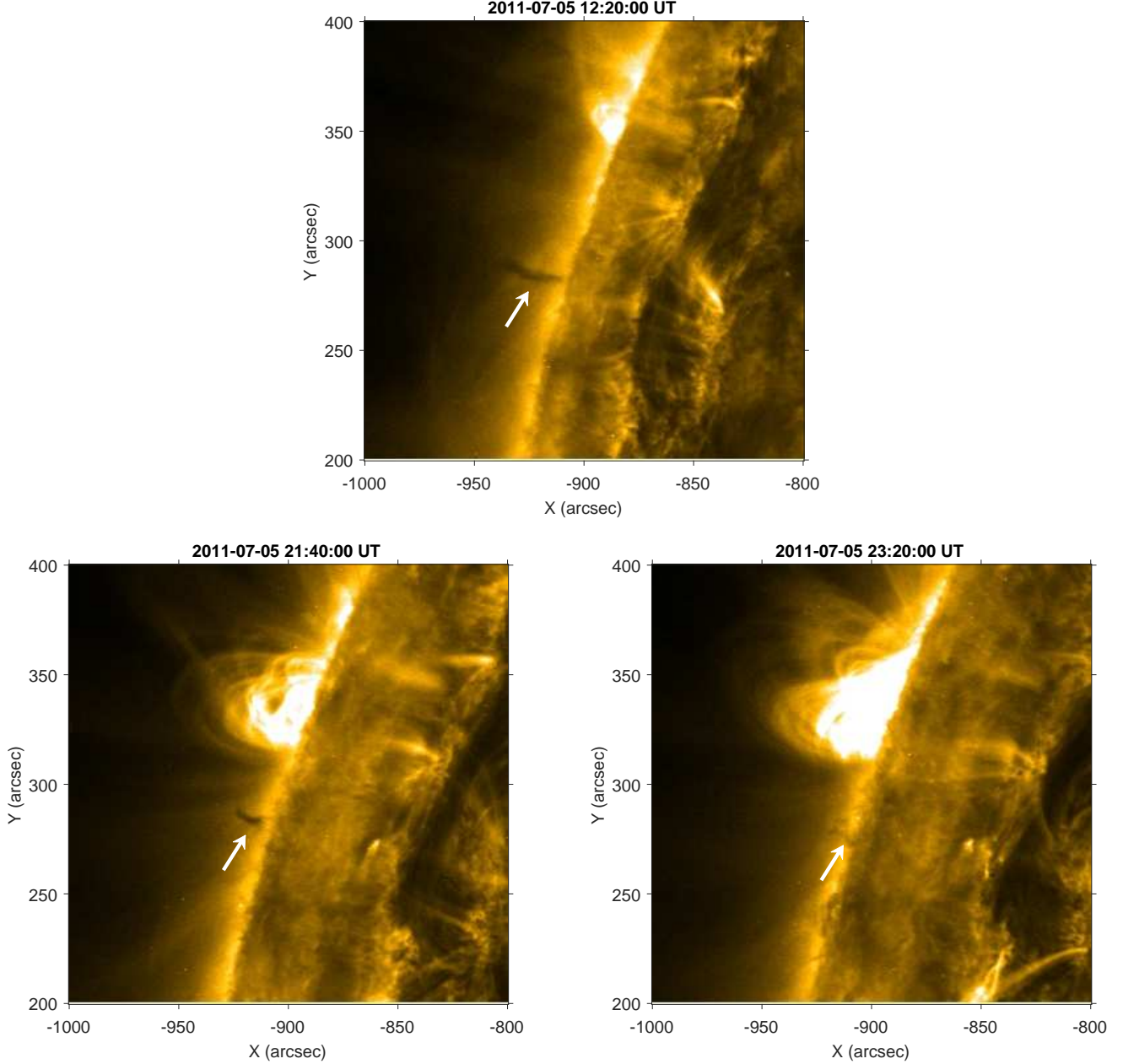


Figure 5. Final evolution stage of a quasi-quiescent tornado in the AIA 171 Å line. White arrows indicate the positions of the tornado. The corresponding movie is available online. The animation shows the *SDO/AIA* 171 Å images of the active tornado from UT 2011-07-05T00:06 to 2011-07-06T02:58.

(An animation of this figure is available.)

3.3. *Quasi-quiescent tornadoes*

The third category includes the tornadoes, which are decreasing gradually in size and disappearing without any clear activity. There were only three events of this kind during the whole year. Figure 5 shows the evolution of the quasi-quiescent tornado during 05:00-23:00 UT on 2011 July 05. It is clearly seen in the figure how the tornado became smaller and disappeared in the 171 Å line. The 304 Å line also shows no clear activity in the hosting prominence. However, some clear brightening

is seen in a nearby active region (northeast) after the tornado's disappearance. We can neither prove nor disprove a connection between the tornado and the active region brightening. Therefore, we call them quasi-quietest tornadoes. Even though the number of these tornadoes is very small (only 3 out of 166), it raises some questions about the feasibility of the disappearance of the tornadoes without any activity. It is possible that we cannot detect the activity due to the spatial resolution or some other reason.

4. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Prominence tornadoes, which are seen as dark structures in hot coronal lines, are usually associated with the prominence legs; therefore, their dynamics is closely connected with the evolution of the whole prominence itself. The rotational dynamics of the tornadoes is currently under debate. Some recent magnetic field measurements showed that the orientation of the field near prominence legs is primarily horizontal, i.e., parallel to the limb (Schmieder et al 2015; Levens et al. 2016a,b, 2017). The measurements could be subject to a 90° ambiguity; therefore, other configurations of magnetic field structure are also possible. However, the observations indicate the presence of significant twist inside the tornadoes as they appear to be vertically elongated structures. Martínez González et al. (2016) detected a helical magnetic field structure near the legs of tornado-hosting prominence. Therefore, tornadoes most likely resemble twisted flux tubes or flux ropes. Twisted, non-potential magnetic configurations suggest that they can efficiently store free magnetic energy, which is the main supply for the CMEs and eruptions (Priest and Forbes 2002). Furthermore, active regions with horizontal magnetic fields are likely to produce strong flares (Kusano et al. 2012). The magnetic field strength is generally around 15 G, but might reach 40-60 G in some places (Levens et al. 2016b). The twisted tubes usually undergo magnetic instabilities (e.g., kink instability) when the twist exceeds some threshold value (Lundquist 1951; Kuridze et al. 2013; Zaqarashvili et al. 2014). Therefore, tornadoes may become unstable due to enhanced tension in the magnetic field. In this case, they may trigger an instability of their hosting prominence on larger spatial scales, which could lead to CMEs (Wedemeyer-Böhm et al. 2013). On the other hand, tornadoes can also be unstable to the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability (Zaqarashvili et al. 2010, 2015), which may lead to the heating of the structure and its consequent disappearance.

In order to study the stability properties of prominence tornadoes statistically, we used *SDO/AIA* data from the year 2011. We carefully studied all tornadoes that appeared in the 171 Å line during the whole year. In total, 361 events were detected, which include both individual tornadoes and tornado groups. However, we were not able to trace all of them until the end of their lives, as some tornadoes moved to the far side of the Sun due to the solar rotation and some of them moved toward the disk center where their identification was complicated. Finally, we selected 166 tornadoes which were tracked until the end of their lives confidently. Each of the tornadoes has been carefully observed, especially during the final phase of their evolution. We made a catalog of these 166 tornadoes, including their start and end times, starting solar coordinates and the lifetimes (see Table 2). Depending on their final fate, we classified the tornadoes into three categories. *Eruptive tornadoes* lead to global instabilities of their hosting prominence and consequent CME's, which were found in the LASCO CME catalog (Yashiro et al. 2004). The appearance times of the CMEs are presented on the last column of Table 2. *Active tornadoes* generally cause some apparent activity in their hosting prominences such as failed CMEs and/or plasma internal motion. These tornadoes

sometimes also trigger microflares. *Quasi-quietescent tornadoes* generally decay without showing any significant activity. The corresponding types of tornadoes are indicated in Table 2.

All observed tornadoes were associated with prominences. We have not investigated the prominences without tornadoes, but according to HEK there were 7529 prominences during the whole year of 2011. It is plausible that only one-third were seen near the limb, which leads to ~ 2500 limb prominences per year. Wang et al. (2010) also found that there are at least 10 limb prominences per day during the minimum phase of solar activity. Then using the total number of detected tornadoes during 2011 (361) one can conclude that roughly 10-15% of prominences host tornadoes.

From the selected 166 tornadoes, 80 (48%) were eruptive, i.e., they caused CMEs, 83 (50%) were active, and only 3 (2%) were quasi-quietescent, i.e., they disappeared without any noticeable activity. This means that almost all tornado-hosting prominences show some activity in the form of eruption, failed eruption, or internal instability. On the other hand, almost half of the tornado-hosting prominences erupted as CMEs. This is a very interesting statistical result, which could play a significant role in space weather predictions. If a tornado-like structure appears near a prominence leg, then it is likely to erupt as a CME with 50% probability. The mean lifetime of eruptive tornadoes is between 25 and 75 hr, which means that the CME initiation may be expected to occur 1-3 days after the formation of a tornado-like structure in a prominence. One can predict the approximate location of the prominence on the solar disk, which will help to predict the expected angle of CME eruption. This is one of the key issues in space weather. Future observations will show more details of the connection between tornado-hosting prominences and CMEs.

CMEs that lead to shocks produce type II radio bursts, while flare-generated electron beams cause type III radio bursts (White 2007). It would be interesting to study whether prominence tornadoes have any radio emission signatures associated with them. The considered year (2011) was close to the peak of solar activity. It would be interesting to study how the results of this work change at solar activity minimum, i.e., what is the effect of the solar cycle on our statistical results. We plan to perform 3D MHD simulations of tornado and prominence destabilization, particularly focusing on the effect of horizontal magnetic field as in Kusano et al. (2012).

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APPENDIX

A catalog of prominence tornadoes during the year 2011 is presented here. First and second columns stand for start and end times of tornadoes. Third and fourth columns show initial X and Y coordinates of the tornadoes. Fifth column indicates tornado type. Sixth and seventh columns denote life times of tornadoes and corresponding CME appearance times, respectively.

Table 2. A catalog of prominence tornadoes during the year 2011.

Start Time	End Time	Start X	Start Y	Type	Lifetime (Hr)	CME appearance Time
31.12.2010 05:00	02.01.2011 15:00	524	-829	CME	58	1/2/2011 15:24:05
27.12.2010 13:00	01.01.2011 14:30	-425	775	Active	126	...
30.12.2010 08:00	01.01.2011 14:00	-332	870	Active	54	...
01.01.2011 13:00	02.01.2011 05:00	528	-674	CME	16	1/2/2011 15:24:05
29.12.2010 18:00	02.01.2011 23:00	548	806	Active	101	...
17.01.2011 14:00	18.01.2011 03:00	362	861	Active	13	...
17.01.2011 13:00	22.01.2011 21:00	300	560	CME	128	1/23/2011 0:48:05
19.01.2011 04:00	20.01.2011 15:00	-897	354	Active	35	...
17.01.2011 20:00	20.01.2011 16:00	465	836	CME	68	1/20/2011 18:48:06
20.01.2011 20:00	22.01.2011 12:00	632	729	CME	40	1/22/2011 13:36:06
30.01.2011 05:00	03.02.2011 17:00	-865	422	Active	108	...
05.02.2011 16:00	08.02.2011 19:00	-791	532	CME	75	2/9/2011 0:12:06
07.02.2011 13:00	08.02.2011 19:00	-503	822	CME	30	2/9/2011 0:12:06
06.02.2011 21:00	07.02.2011 04:00	-664	705	Active	7	...
25.01.2011 07:00	28.01.2011 03:00	-870	-416	CME	68	1/28/2011 5:00:07
05.02.2011 10:00	10.02.2011 21:00	-762	-584	CME	131	2/11/2011 1:36:05
09.02.2011 21:00	10.02.2011 11:00	-775	-568	Active	14	...
11.02.2011 07:00	11.02.2011 22:00	-765	-583	Active	15	...
29.01.2011 13:00	31.01.2011 03:00	548	-786	Active	38	...
24.01.2011 13:00	25.01.2011 03:00	723	-515	Active	14	...
21.02.2011 09:00	25.02.2011 06:00	-767	569	CME	93	2/25/2011 6:12:06
24.02.2011 05:00	25.02.2011 06:00	-505	793	CME	25	2/25/2011 6:12:06
27.02.2011 05:00	28.02.2011 08:00	-548	804	Active	27	...
17.02.2011 17:00	25.02.2011 19:00	-438	858	CME	194	2/25/2011 20:24:06
11.02.2011 01:00	17.02.2011 11:00	-530	-800	Active	154	...
20.02.2011 07:00	01.03.2011 23:00	-925	-206	CME	232	3/2/2011 2:24:07
20.02.2011 07:00	01.03.2011 23:00	-874	-382	CME	232	3/2/2011 2:24:07
04.03.2011 07:00	05.03.2011 19:00	-885	370	CME	36	3/5/2011 20:54:05
08.03.2011 21:00	20.03.2011 03:00	-882	328	Active	270	...
11.03.2011 19:00	13.03.2011 19:00	-693	649	Active	48	...
10.03.2011 13:00	12.03.2011 17:00	-947	-61	CME	52	3/12/2011 17:12:05
12.03.2011 08:00	14.03.2011 02:00	-697	663	Active	42	...
15.03.2011 17:00	18.03.2011 03:00	-95	902	Active	58	...
01.03.2011 22:00	03.03.2011 02:00	724	589	Active	28	...

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Table 2 (*continued*)

Start Time	End Time	Start X	Start Y	Type	Lifetime (Hr)	CME appearance Time
05.03.2011 11:00	06.03.2011 13:00	-669	-681	CME	26	3/6/2011 5:12:06
09.03.2011 07:00	10.03.2011 03:00	-840	-441	Active	20	...
14.03.2011 03:00	19.03.2011 21:00	-544	-781	CME	138	3/19/2011 21:24:11
01.03.2011 21:00	05.03.2011 05:00	788	-513	Active	80	...
15.03.2011 01:00	17.03.2011 23:00	-858	412	Active	70	...
19.03.2011 19:00	21.03.2011 23:00	-631	697	Active	52	...
19.03.2011 17:00	27.03.2011 21:00	-433	840	Active	196	...
25.03.2011 11:00	29.03.2011 19:00	-559	760	CME	104	3/29/2011 20:36:07
22.03.2011 13:00	24.03.2011 15:00	-481	812	Active	50	...
23.03.2011 03:00	24.03.2011 03:00	-670	-676	CME	24	3/24/2011 4:36:07
27.03.2011 15:00	09.04.2011 11:00	-665	-674	Active	308	...
11.03.2011 17:00	19.03.2011 11:00	57	-343	CME	186	3/19/2011 12:12:06
30.03.2011 17:00	06.04.2011 14:00	-390	882	Active	141	...
04.04.2011 12:00	05.04.2011 21:00	-949	160	Active	33	...
08.04.2011 05:00	09.04.2011 00:00	-960	-48	Active	19	...
05.04.2011 07:00	06.04.2011 23:00	-637	723	Active	40	...
02.04.2011 02:00	02.04.2011 15:00	614	742	Active	13	...
04.04.2011 05:00	12.04.2011 11:00	-72	790	Active	198	...
10.04.2011 21:00	15.04.2011 03:00	368	844	CME	102	4/15/2011 13:36:05
30.03.2011 19:00	11.04.2011 23:00	-929	234	Active	292	...
04.04.2011 03:00	17.04.2011 15:00	-734	-590	CME	324	4/17/2011 19:36:05
10.04.2011 03:00	14.04.2011 23:00	-752	-583	Active	116	...
11.04.2011 13:00	13.04.2011 07:00	696	-669	CME	42	4/13/2011 16:48:05
17.04.2011 15:00	20.04.2011 21:00	-941	-70	Active	78	...
19.04.2011 05:00	19.04.2011 22:00	-808	471	Active	17	...
17.04.2011 05:00	20.04.2011 15:00	-701	659	CME	82	4/20/2011 5:12:07
15.04.2011 10:00	17.04.2011 07:00	-501	821	CME	45	4/17/2011 11:48:06
19.04.2011 11:00	21.04.2011 07:00	-429	841	Active	44	...
27.04.2011 07:00	29.04.2011 07:00	667	636	Active	48	...
24.04.2011 23:00	26.04.2011 23:00	-659	-670	CME	48	4/27/2011 7:48:06
27.04.2011 15:00	29.04.2011 19:00	-679	-637	Active	52	...
21.04.2011 11:00	25.04.2011 09:00	-459	-818	Active	94	...
29.04.2011 23:00	02.05.2011 07:00	662	-687	CME	56	5/2/2011 7:36:07
11.05.2011 19:00	12.05.2011 19:00	-906	256	Active	24	...
13.05.2011 03:00	14.05.2011 11:00	-765	535	Active	32	...
03.05.2011 19:00	05.05.2011 11:00	-643	693	Active	40	...
09.05.2011 01:00	09.05.2011 23:00	-645	669	Active	22	...
27.04.2011 15:00	02.05.2011 17:00	202	779	Active	122	...
03.05.2011 17:00	04.05.2011 15:00	-895	-315	Active	22	...
08.05.2011 05:00	13.05.2011 17:00	-19	-467	Active	132	...
19.05.2011 21:00	25.05.2011 11:00	-781	511	Active	134	...
27.05.2011 01:00	10.06.2011 07:00	-718	599	CME	342	6/10/2011 13:25:46
15.05.2011 19:00	18.05.2011 19:00	-456	824	CME	72	5/18/2011 21:24:09

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Table 2 (*continued*)

Start Time	End Time	Start X	Start Y	Type	Lifetime (Hr)	CME appearance Time
19.05.2011 07:00	19.05.2011 23:00	-595	723	CME	16	5/20/2011 3:12:09
30.05.2011 07:00	31.05.2011 11:00	-564	753	CME	28	5/31/2011 14:12:06
18.05.2011 17:00	21.05.2011 15:00	742	552	Active	70	...
16.05.2011 05:00	18.05.2011 04:00	786	434	CME	47	5/18/2011 6:24:06
23.05.2011 17:00	25.05.2011 21:00	-932	-68	Active	52	...
25.05.2011 01:00	27.05.2011 23:00	-898	-266	Active	70	...
30.05.2011 17:00	12.06.2011 15:00	-931	79	CME	310	6/12/2011 14:48:06
29.05.2011 11:00	01.06.2011 07:00	-755	-547	Active	68	...
25.05.2011 11:00	26.05.2011 07:00	-487	-803	CME	20	5/26/2011 4:36:05
15.05.2011 19:00	17.05.2011 21:00	843	-267	Active	50	...
09.06.2011 06:00	14.06.2011 05:00	-960	78	CME	119	6/14/2011 6:12:05
31.05.2011 03:00	05.06.2011 05:00	-802	476	CME	122	6/5/2011 3:44:23
13.06.2011 07:00	21.06.2011 03:00	-794	494	CME	188	6/21/2011 3:16:10
14.06.2011 11:00	23.06.2011 23:00	-629	694	Active	228	...
12.06.2011 03:00	12.06.2011 17:00	566	753	Active	15	...
14.06.2011 09:00	14.06.2011 19:00	809	489	CME	10	6/14/2011 18:36:05
05.06.2011 09:00	06.06.2011 07:00	-876	-316	Active	22	...
03.06.2011 21:00	05.06.2011 11:00	-800	-484	CME	38	6/5/2011 16:59:57
02.06.2011 03:00	05.06.2011 11:00	-668	-653	CME	80	6/5/2011 16:59:57
10.06.2011 15:00	12.06.2011 07:00	815	-263	Active	40	...
13.06.2011 15:00	15.06.2011 11:00	698	-335	CME	44	6/15/2011 13:36:21
21.05.2011 05:00	06.06.2011 03:00	-759	-544	CME	382	6/6/2011 7:30:04
21.05.2011 19:00	06.06.2011 09:00	-637	-685	CME	374	6/6/2011 7:30:04
12.06.2011 11:00	15.06.2011 17:00	500	-675	CME	78	6/15/2011 13:36:21
19.06.2011 05:00	23.06.2011 12:00	-900	264	Active	103	...
19.06.2011 12:00	23.06.2011 12:00	-814	516	Active	96	...
25.06.2011 03:00	28.06.2011 21:00	-646	674	Active	90	...
15.06.2011 22:00	17.06.2011 11:00	646	658	CME	37	6/17/2011 11:00:05
16.06.2011 19:00	17.06.2011 17:00	-771	-530	Active	22	...
19.06.2011 19:00	21.06.2011 09:00	-653	-665	CME	38	6/21/2011 8:48:05
05.07.2011 05:00	05.07.2011 23:00	-900	290	quasi-quiet	18	...
08.07.2011 09:00	10.07.2011 07:00	-675	665	CME	46	7/10/2011 12:00:05
13.07.2011 17:00	17.07.2011 05:00	-667	670	CME	84	7/17/2011 6:12:05
11.07.2011 05:00	13.07.2011 21:00	-581	-735	Active	64	...
07.07.2011 05:00	09.07.2011 11:00	505	-742	Active	54	...
17.07.2011 17:00	19.07.2011 22:00	-436	843	Active	47	...
31.07.2011 22:00	01.08.2011 17:00	-923	220	Active	19	...
07.08.2011 05:00	11.08.2011 15:00	-660	681	Active	106	...
12.08.2011 19:00	17.08.2011 03:00	-415	852	CME	104	8/17/2011 4:00:06
14.08.2011 19:00	16.08.2011 07:00	-715	624	CME	36	8/16/2011 10:12:06
10.08.2011 17:00	14.08.2011 14:00	140	-787	Active	93	...
22.08.2011 11:00	31.08.2011 09:00	-681	664	Active	214	...
17.08.2011 18:00	19.08.2011 03:00	-587	752	quasi-quiet	9	...

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Table 2 (*continued*)

Start Time	End Time	Start X	Start Y	Type	Lifetime (Hr)	CME appearance Time
18.08.2011 11:00	20.08.2011 23:00	-343	885	CME	60	8/21/2011 1:36:20
25.08.2011 07:00	30.08.2011 11:00	471	456	Active	124	...
30.08.2011 15:00	02.09.2011 07:00	-782	-542	CME	64	9/2/2011 0:36:06
12.09.2011 23:00	14.09.2011 11:00	-954	-30	Active	36	...
31.08.2011 13:00	10.09.2011 03:00	-840	420	CME	206	9/10/2011 3:12:09
02.09.2011 23:00	04.09.2011 03:00	-840	466	Active	28	...
13.09.2011 13:00	14.09.2011 13:00	-676	679	CME	24	9/14/2011 12:24:06
10.09.2011 03:00	13.09.2011 13:00	-480	828	CME	82	9/13/2011 16:12:05
14.09.2011 03:00	15.09.2011 15:00	-546	-788	Active	36	...
02.09.2011 05:00	06.09.2011 07:00	500	-748	CME	98	9/6/2011 5:36:06
10.09.2011 11:00	12.09.2011 13:00	606	-737	Active	50	...
17.09.2011 01:00	19.09.2011 06:00	-950	110	Active	53	...
03.10.2011 17:00	13.10.2011 01:00	157	667	CME	224	9/13/2011 1:25:52
03.10.2011 05:00	04.10.2011 13:00	-810	-519	Active	32	...
08.10.2011 00:00	08.10.2011 18:00	-802	-522	Active	18	...
04.10.2011 05:00	05.10.2011 11:00	-645	-708	CME	30	10/5/2011 9:12:09
05.10.2011 05:00	06.10.2011 03:00	633	-695	CME	22	10/6/2011 5:24:06
18.10.2011 03:00	22.10.2011 17:00	4	812	CME	110	10/22/2011 17:48:05
24.10.2011 07:00	25.10.2011 05:00	-958	-122	CME	22	10/25/2011 6:24:05
21.10.2011 11:00	24.10.2011 21:00	-881	-403	CME	82	10/24/2011 20:36:07
03.11.2011 17:00	05.11.2011 03:00	-968	45	Active	34	...
15.11.2011 15:00	26.11.2011 09:00	-970	14	Active	258	...
08.11.2011 09:00	22.11.2011 19:00	-885	401	CME	346	11/22/2011 20:57:31
11.11.2011 13:00	14.11.2011 11:00	-651	717	CME	70	11/14/2011 15:48:06
29.10.2011 05:00	04.11.2011 21:00	-13	718	CME	160	11/5/2011 0:36:05
04.11.2011 07:00	05.11.2011 03:00	769	-567	CME	20	11/5/2011 4:00:05
26.11.2011 01:00	28.11.2011 07:00	-822	525	CME	54	11/28/2011 6:36:05
28.11.2011 13:00	29.11.2011 21:00	752	616	Active	32	...
24.11.2011 09:00	27.11.2011 17:00	498	251	CME	80	11/27/2011 20:00:07
17.11.2011 19:00	20.11.2011 15:00	733	216	CME	68	11/20/2011 14:12:05
05.12.2011 07:00	05.12.2011 19:00	-948	222	Active	12	...
05.12.2011 23:00	11.12.2011 07:00	-894	384	CME	128	12/11/2011 10:12:06
29.11.2011 23:00	04.12.2011 03:00	-796	543	CME	100	12/4/2011 6:00:05
14.12.2011 05:00	18.12.2011 07:00	-730	644	CME	98	12/18/2011 17:48:05
04.12.2011 03:00	09.12.2011 23:00	-578	777	CME	140	12/10/2011 7:24:06
15.12.2011 01:00	18.12.2011 11:00	-438	870	quasi-quiescent	82	...
29.11.2011 09:00	02.12.2011 11:00	355	883	CME	74	12/2/2011 17:24:05
02.12.2011 05:00	03.12.2011 15:00	-819	-526	CME	34	12/3/2011 16:36:06
15.12.2011 01:00	16.12.2011 09:00	-812	-544	Active	32	...
10.12.2011 13:00	24.12.2011 11:00	-506	-831	Active	334	...
22.12.2011 11:00	23.12.2011 23:00	-821	519	CME	36	12/23/2011 20:48:07
26.12.2011 11:00	28.12.2011 13:00	378	611	CME	50	12/28/2011 16:12:06
31.12.2011 11:00	15.01.2012 03:00	-914	-344	Active	352	...

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Table 2 (*continued*)

Start Time	End Time	Start X	Start Y	Type	Lifetime (Hr)	CME appearance Time
17.12.2011 01:00	18.12.2011 07:00	-837	-499	CME	30	12/19/2011 1:25:52
31.12.2011 15:00	01.01.2012 19:00	-650	-730	Active	28	...
15.12.2011 15:00	16.12.2011 17:00	839	-477	CME	26	12/16/2011 20:48:05